



October 2012

Volume 8, Issue 8

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From the Editor

The chill in the air signals that summertime is nearly over in W7DK country. And too, another month of activities by the Radio Club of Tacoma and its members is in the history books.

September's calendar was filled with regular weekend get-togethers and swap meets, a fabulous booth built and staffed by Stephan and his crew at the fair for over two weeks.

After several years of coming close, this year's Salmon Run ended with a clean sweep, not only for the Club, but for several individual members. I was fortunate to be able to hang out at the clubhouse on both days, and it certainly was a memorable occasion. And, if you made a pledge associated with the Salmon Run successes, please remember to send in your check as soon as you can.

Recently several club members assisted with the Boy Scouts Washington Jamboree. They've now sent out a call for potential mentors for young scouts who are working on the Morse Code and Radio merit badges. This is a good opportunity to recruit some new young members. See the info elsewhere in The Bark.

There are several items of important administrative importance coming up in the very near future. At our Annual Membership Meeting on November 14, 2012, new officers and board members will be elected. The nominating committee will be reporting on candidates on October 10th.

Also, voting will be held on the adoption of revisions to the RCT Bylaws. By now, you should have received a mailing regarding the proposed changes. These changes can also be viewed on the club website w7dk.org.

Thanks to Harry for submitting several QSL cards for this month's wallpaper page, and to others who contributed articles or photos to help fill the pages.

-73 - W7MWF Mike

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Board of Directors Meeting 1 August 2012

The 1 August 2012 Radio Club of Tacoma Board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma. President Gary McAdams called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President	Gary McAdams WG7X
Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Treasurer	Bob Purdom AC7LJ
Board Member	Al Ferguson N7OMS
Board Member	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board Member	James Mendenhall KE6WHN
Board Member	Nick Winter K7MO

Minutes:

The minutes of the 9 July 2012 Board meeting, as coordinated and corrected, were approved without objection.

Health and Welfare: Nick K7MO reported the passing of long time club member Ken Keigly W7DM who was nearing a hundred and one years old. Ken attended our 90th Anniversary as the Guest of Honor. Nick recommends we add him to our SK Board. Steve Morton AD7AB is recovering from several recent surgeries.

Secretary's Report: KD4VOM reports the following correspondence;

- Phone Bill
- Experimenters Journal
- Bank Statements
- Hamfest Registrations
- Electric Radio
- Newsletters
- QSL Cards

Treasurer's Report: AC7LJ provided the monthly financial report.

There was a short discussion of the cost of the porta-potties used for Hamfest, but no workable alternative seems possible.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the financial report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Larry KD4VOM reports that Karl K7KHJ is working to find and get a replacement Membership coordinator replacement.

Repeater Committee: Nick K7MO reports he plans to work on the Crawford Mountain 147.38 repeater installation this coming Friday. There is work to be done on the cabinet and duplexer installation..

The 145.21 repeater at the Bates Channel 28 site remains in service.

The 440 repeater remains out of service for a power supply

Hamfest: Larry KD4VOM provided an update on the Hamfest location construction and possible work-around that will likely be necessary to accommodate our operations. Parking will be a significant issue. Maury W7OT has located and arranged for a food vendor who uses a small cart. We plan to help him with the coffee.

Larry KD4VOM received the usual \$ 600.00 Hamfest advance to provide for the Hamfest cash boxes and other expenses.

Larry KD4VOM reminded the Board that he and Al K7HW will be retiring at the end of this year's Hamfest. He recommends that the Board for a group to evaluate the costs and benefits of continuing to do the annual Hamfest. There are important reasons to continue, but without stronger support from the membership, and given the relatively small cash realized from the Fest in recent years it's time to review the operation.

Property Management: Frank AC7JY Presented the Property Management Teams selection of property for disposition. Many of the items have been previously listed but not sold.

There was general acceptance of the listing.

There was a discussion of the Atlas 350 power supply which was cleared up.

It was also recommended that the small fold over tower be approved for sale.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the property disposition list with the inclusion of the fold over tower.

Frank also noted that we have received the approved new folding wagon.

Emergency Operations Plan: KD4VOM Larry Watson KD4VOM reports that scheduling problems and vacations have delayed the planned RCT EmComm All Hands meeting. Work continues to establish a date and location for the meeting.

Facilities Remodel Committee: Al N7OMS
This project is essentially complete.

RCT Information Technology Committee:

Randy Myers WB4SPB reports the requirements draft is circulating among the members and we should have a proposal at the next Board Meeting. Expect an email draft mid-month. There are remaining areas such as the IRLP requirements to be ironed out.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:***RCT Bylaws Revision:*** Larry KD4VOM

The Bylaws draft has been distributed and posted to the W7DK.org. The Bylaws vote is expected in October.

The RCT ARRL Charter Document: Bob AC7LJ continues to look for a suitable framer and determine the cost.

NEW BUSINESS:

Silent Key Policy: Larry KD4VOM is working on preparing a draft Silent Key policy.

Power Blower: Bob K7MXE purchased a leaf blower and purchased one for the club at \$107.08. Bob is requesting reimbursement.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to reimburse Bob K7MXE for the purchase of the leaf blower.

Salmon Run: Larry KD4VOM reminded the Board that Salmon Run is around the corner and we need to get a team together to handle the Contest Team and Pledge operations as well. Al asked about Salmon Run information in the next BARK... Al and Gary to coordinate the Salmon run.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Peter AD7EU – is planning to present an overview of his recent trip to Europe at an upcoming membership meeting.

Open House – Last Saturday: Larry KD4VOM and Al K7HW are retiring from the Last Saturday Open House duty.

Rookie Roundup: RTTY August 19th

Clark County: ARC August 25th at Vancouver WA Al N7OMS notes that KD4VOM is celebrating a birthday tomorrow, and we would like thank you and help celebrate your birthday with a card and cake. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm

**Board of Directors Meeting
5 September 2012**

The 5 September 2012 Radio Club of Tacoma Board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma. Secretary Larry Watson KD4VOM called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Officers and board members present:

Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Treasurer	Bob Purdom AC7LJ
Board Member	Al Ferguson N7OMS
Board Member	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board Member	James Mendenhall KE6WHN
Board Member	Nick Winter K7MO

Minutes: The minutes of the 1 August 2012 Board meeting, as coordinated and corrected, were approved without objection.

Health and Welfare: Charles KD7UAN recovering from surgery.

Secretary's Report: KD4VOM reports the following correspondence;

- Utility Bills
- Bank Statements
- Salmon Run Pledges
- Electric Radio
- Newsletters
- QSL Cards

Treasurer's Report: AC7LJ provided the monthly financial report.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the financial report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Larry KD4VOM introduced Rick Van Every N7YFE who has agreed to take on the Membership database.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to provide Rich N7YFR with clubhouse alarm and keybox access.

RCT Information Technology Committee: Randy Myers WB4SBP presented and reviewed the IT Committee's five year plan recommendations. There followed detailed discussion on multiple aspects of the recommendations to include, the initial desktop system, IRLP, mass storage, gigabyte switch, large screen

RCT General Meetings

video display and the phased acquisition test and verification timeline.

A copy of the IT Committee's recommendations is attached to the original copy of these minutes. Following these detailed exploratory discussions, the following motions were presented by Al Ferguson N7OMS.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that the board authorize the purchase of one desktop system per the IT committee recommendation in Appendix A "Newegg/InfoTech" with the understanding that some items may be substituted by the IT personnel on the fly due to changes in market. Also the purchase of one surge protector for this desk top and Anti-malware. With a budget of \$1,000.00. Al Ferguson will act as buying agent and will be using his personal credit card and home address as delivery point. Al will oversee the building of this desktop.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that the board authorize the purchase of an Archive/mass storage solution; 24 port gigabyte switch; presentation remote for the classroom and a surge protector for the mass storage solution using the recommendations of the IT team page 6. With a budget of \$1,400.00. Al Ferguson N7OMS will act as purchasing agent and use his credit card and home address as point of delivery. Al will also oversee the installation of the switch and mass storage solution with the help of the IT Team. A motion was made, seconded and passed that the board authorize the purchase of a large screen video display and wall mount for the Lou Room following the guidelines within the IT Committee recommendations with a budget of \$ 1,000.00. Al Ferguson N7OMS will act as purchasing agent using his personal credit card and home address as point of delivery. Al will also oversee the installation of the video screen in the Lou Room.

This acquisition is intended to be a phased approach with the purchase of an initial set of hardware and software, assembled, and the configuration verified to determine if any configuration changes are required prior to purchasing any additional desktop systems.

Repeater Committee: Nick K7MO reports work continues on the Crawford Mountain 147.38 repeater. Nick requests authorization to buy crystals for the new GE Master II 145.21 repeater at the Bates Transmitter site. And purchase two additional crystals to provide control receivers at Crawford Mountain and Club repeater sites. Nick also requests the purchase of a GE Master Service Test set offered by K7HW to support

club repeater maintenance and service operations.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to authorize up to \$ 500.00 for the purchase of crystals for the GE Master II 145.21 repeater and the Crawford Mountain 147.38 control receivers and the purchase of a GE Master II service test set

Al N7OMS asked about future repeater maintenance requirements. Nick advised us that the 145.21 Bates Repeater will need a new antenna at around \$ 1,000.00; The Crawford Mountain 147.38 repeater Yagi antenna has a 2:1 VSWR and should be replaced as well. Nick wants to investigate moving the Crawford Mountain to Graham area. More work needs to be done in terms of long range planning options for the Club's repeater system.

Hamfest: Larry KD4VOM provided a summary Hamfest report and expects a full report will be distributed by October when the final invoice is received from the Bethel School District.

Larry thanked Maury Kurtz W7OT who stepped up to handle one of the Hamfest's most challenging jobs; Vendor registration and management. Maury developed a detailed procedure and set of documents to maintain the Vendor registration database, provide post card acknowledgments, created the Vendor reception packets and contents to include the name tags, vendor booklet, hang tag and floor plan table assignments. He also managed the Master of Ceremonies task to keep vendors and attendees aware of current information. Maury also managed the chaotic, but critical door and raffle prize operations, improving on the process. He has documented this process in detail to provide a how to handbook for future Hamfest Vendor Coordinators. Even beyond that, it was Maury who located and arranged for the food and refreshment vendor we had this year. Thank you for the can do and done attitude which made this year's Hamfest possible.

Property Management: Larry reported that Property Management Teams country store operations turned a profit of \$ 740.00 this year.

Elections: Coming up soon, a Nominating Committee is needed now.

Emergency Operations Plan: KD4VOM
Larry Watson KD4VOM reports that scheduling problems and vacations continue delayed the planned RCT EmComm All Hands meeting. Work continues to establish a date and location for the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**RCT Bylaws Revision:** Larry KD4VOM

The Bylaws draft has been distributed and posted to the W7DK.org. The Bylaws vote is expected in October.

NEW BUSINESS:

Silent Key Policy: Larry KD4VOM is working on preparing a draft Silent Key policy.

Salmon Run: Larry KD4VOM noted that the Salmon Run Pledge letters are in the mail. Al N7OMS recommends the use of a phone tree call to promote Salmon Run pledges/donations.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

W7DK@the Fair: Steve AD7AB has the booth setup, photo on the website. We still have vacancies and some tours require a second volunteer. Please step up.

WashJam Scouting Event: Steve AD7VL reported on the recent WashJam scouting event which hosted around 4,000 scouts at North Fort Lewis. thanked Karl Johnson K7KHJ and Greg Glidden KF7BAO. Steve donated the \$ 70.00 in expenses he incurred in support of this year's WashJam operations. Check the WashJam 2012 Facebook for photos.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm

RCT General Meeting Notes 12 September 2012

The 12 September General Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Gary McAdams called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

Vice President	Casey Hicks WY7V
Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Board	Al Ferguson N7OMS
Board	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board	James Mendenhall KE6WHN

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached to the original copy of these minutes. There were 30 names on the attendance roster.

Pledge of Allegiance: Was led by Vice President Casey WY7V

Introductions: Guest and Self introductions were completed.

Illness or Silent Key: Morel Guyot W6LIX remains terminally ill, resting at home.

Correspondence:

- Utility bills
- Bank Statements
- Newsletters
- Electric Radio
- QSL Cards
- Salmon Run Pledges

Treasurer: Larry KD4VOM passed around the Field Day donation piggy.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:**VE Report:** John Clarke AC7WW

The testing session on Tuesday evening September 11th, five Volunteer Examiners graded 20 elements from nine candidates. Of the 20 elements graded, 13 passed. Three new Technicians joined the amateur service. Two candidates passed element 2 and 3 to start their amateur service as General Class. Three candidates upgraded to General. The VE's had to wait as one last candidate completed his exams, passing elements two, three and four to become an amateur extra. He was one surprised candidate!

Thanks to the following VE's for their time and effort.

Steve, AD7VL

Jon, AD7AW

Rich, KK7VH

Stephen, AD7AB

The next monthly scheduled testing session will be Tuesday October 9th, 2012.

Salmon Run: The RCT Fundraiser - Larry KD4VOM reviewed club capabilities improved in years past using Salmon Run funds. He reviewed the clubs usual sources of income for the club; Club member dues, The Hamfest; Property Donations and sales, and Salmon Run. Dues simply can't cover the costs of operating the club, let alone conduct activities such as Field Day, The Kirkreit Picnic and annual Awards Banquet, and maintain the facilities and provide equipment upgrades.

Bylaws Revision: Larry KD4VOM notes that the proposed Bylaws revision, which if approved, will replace the 1999 current Bylaws. Members will be receiving a copy of the Bylaws soon, and the ballot will be held at

the 14 November annual membership meeting. The proposed Bylaws changes are also available on the w7dk.org website for member review.

Hamfest: Larry KD4VOM Reports the Hamfest is in the books, and awaiting the final Bethel Jr. High bill which doesn't usually arrive until October. At this point it looks like we will have raised about a thousand dollars for the club's coffers.

Nominating Committee: Joe K7ZG announced he is chairing the annual Nominations Committee. This year the President, Treasurer and two Board of Director positions are up for election. Please contact Joe or any Club officer if you wish to run or nominate a candidate. Board members require one year active membership, Club officers, President and Treasurer require two years active membership and all require the permission of the candidate to be placed in nomination.

Library Accessions: Larry KD4VOM reported on club Librarian Doug AD7AV's recent emergency communications additions to our library:

- The ARRL Introduction to Emergency Communications Course 4th edition
- Emergency Power for Radio Communications, Second Edition ARRL by Michael Bryce, WB8VGE
- Emergency Communications Andrew Baze, Author of "The Road Home"
- Low Profile Amateur Radio – Operating a Ham Station from Almost Anywhere, Second Edition, Al Brogdon, W1AB
- Digital Technology for Emergency Communications Course (ARRL DVD)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

W7DK at the Fair: Steve AD7AB has the signup calendar on the W7DK.org website. Vacancies remain; please find a time to serve a tour. You will receive a package with free tickets and parking to a great opportunity to serve Amateur Radio and enjoy the Fair yourself.

Training : Technician Class: The next Technician's license class is scheduled for 6/7 October, Contact Steve AD7AB or the website for further information.

PROGRAMS:

ARRL Do It Yourself Promotional Video :
Larry KD4VOM provided this ARRL video which is clearly aimed at today's younger generation.

Show and Tell: none reported.

Tuning and traffic: Mike W7XTZ announced their group's plans to deploy to the San Juan Islands as W7A for this year's Field Day again.

Contact with the Falkland Islands was reported
Latvia was heard from the Fair.

Swain Islands DX has been activated and are operating

Door Prizes: The speaker mike was won by David W7BAD

Raffle prize: Raffle was a Meter; won by KI7GW .

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

RCT General Meeting Notes 26 September 2012

The 26 September General Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Gary McAdams called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President	Gary McAdams WG7X
Vice President	Casey Hicks WY7V
Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Board	Al Ferguson N7OMS
Board	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board	James Mendenhall KE6WHN

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached to the original copy of these minutes. There were 30 names on the attendance roster.

Pledge of Allegiance: Was led by President Gary WG7X

The RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA needs your donations...

DONATIONS PLAY A BIG PART IN FUNDING THE OPERATION OF RCT. IF YOU HAVE UNWANTED OR UNNEEDED AMATEUR RADIO OR RELATED EQUIPMENT. PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING IT TO THE CLUB

If you have something to donate Contact Frank Palmer AC7JY, Property Management Team Leader

Introductions: Guest and Self introductions were completed.

Illness or Silent Key: Morel Guyot W6LIX remains terminally ill, resting at home. Mike Elwell W7GH-W's XYL has been suffering medical issues recently, fell and is currently in a coma. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family.

Secretary's Report:

Correspondence:
Utility bills
Bank Statements
Newsletters
Electric Radio
QSL Cards
Salmon Run Pledges

Treasurer: Larry KD4VOM passed around the Field Day donation piggy.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VE Report: John Clarke AC7WW
Monday morning September 24th a candidate from Montana passed element four to become an amateur extra. He had passed element two and three at the September 11th session. The VE's present agreed that this exam was completed in the fasted time we had seen. In less than 20 minutes the candidate completed the exam, reviewed his answers and changed one answer. He missed two questions, one that he had changed.
Thanks to the following VE's for their time and effort.

Jan, K7HTU

Stephen, AD7AB

The next monthly scheduled testing session will be Tuesday October 9th, 2012.

Salmon Run: Gary WG7X noted that the Mighty W7DK managed a "Clean Sweep" bagging all 39 Washington Counties. A special thanks to all who worked the contest at the Clubhouse. We had a good time and potluck as well. The Salmon Run Pledge drive has helped W7DK make many improvements over the years and this year should be no different. Get your pledges paid and help us move the club forward.

Bylaws Revision: Larry KD4VOM notes that the proposed Bylaws revision will be voted on this year. Members will be receiving a copy of the Bylaws soon, and the ballot will be held at the 14 November annual

membership meeting. The proposed Bylaws changes are also available on the w7dk.org website for member review.

Hamfest: Larry KD4VOM Reports the Hamfest is in the books, and awaiting the final Bethel Jr. High bill which doesn't usually arrive until October. At this point it looks like we will have raised about a thousand dollars for the club's coffers.

ELECTIONS:

Nominating Committee: Larry KD4VOM reminded all that this year's election season is here. Nominations are being sought and Joe K7ZG is chairing the annual Nominations Committee.

This year the President, Treasurer and two Board of Director positions are up for election. Please contact Joe or any Club officer if you wish to run or nominate a candidate. Board members require one year active membership, Club officers, President and Treasurer require two years active membership and all require the permission of the candidate to be placed in nomination.

Nominations will be presented at the October 10th General Membership Meeting, and will also be taken from the floor.

The Election Committee will be appointed at the October 10th meeting as well. Ballots will be mailed to active members, and must be returned postmarked not later than 5 November, or presented to the club Secretary before the 14 November Annual Membership Meeting begins.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

RCT's IT Program: Al N7OMS announced progress acquiring and assembly of the first in a series of upgrades to the Club's Information Technology initiative. He expects the first computer to be completed and ready for installation in the Lou Simmons room by this weekend. Many of these projects are focused on providing needed administrative and archive processing and storage capabilities as well as to create an engaging environment in the Lou room where our visitors, testing candidates, and students can get a much more welcoming and informative perspective on the club, its history and current activities and events.

ARRL Elections: Larry, KD4VOM reminded all that there are ARRL elections coming up next month for both the ARRL Western Washington Division Direc-

tor, and Vice Director.

Current ARRL Northwestern Division Director Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF, of Vancouver, Washington, will face challenger William Balzarini, KL7BB, of Auburn, Washington. Fenstermaker has served as Director since 2005. Prior to being elected as Director, Fenstermaker was appointed Northwestern Division Vice Director in 1999, replacing Greg Milnes, W7AGQ, when Milnes moved up to Director upon the death of then-Director Mary Lou Brown, NM7N.

Incumbent ARRL Northwestern Division Vice Director Grant Hopper, KB7WSD, of Everett, Washington, chose not to seek election for his first full term as Vice Director of the ARRL's Northwestern Division. Hopper was appointed Vice Director in February 2010 when the position became vacant when no one submitted the necessary election materials needed to run for the Vice Director during the regular election cycle.

Three hams are vying to be the next Northwestern Division Vice Director: James Pace, K7CEX, of Centralia, Washington; William Sawders, K7ZM, of La Pine, Oregon, and Daniel Stevens, KL7WM, of Kent, Washington.

W7DK at the Fair: Gary WG7X thanked Steve AD7AB and his crew for a great booth at this year's Western Washington State Fair.

Training : Technician Class: The next Technician's license class is scheduled for 6/7 October, Contact Steve AD7AB or the website for further information.

PROGRAMS: Salmon Run QSO Video

Gary WG7X presented a great video of a ten year old girl in Wisconsin working the Washington State QSO Party (Salmon Run). One of her contacts was with W7DK and the Prez himself.

Show and Tell: None Reported

Tuning and traffic: Several attendees reported a clean sweep at this year's Salmon Run.

Door Prizes: A Radio Shack intercom system was picked up by N7ANF

Raffle prize: The Raffle Prize .

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.



From The Prez...

CLUB ACTIVITIES... Invitation only?



At a recent club activity, I was told that some folks in the club had been upset because they had not been invited to this particular club activity.

I was confused and still am to a certain extent, because I was supposed to be in charge of this particular event and had not given very much thought as to who should be there.

You see, in my mind all club members are always "invited" to all club activities. If the opposite were true, the Radio Club of Tacoma would not be too much of a club, would it?

So when club activities are publicized on the website, at the meetings and on the various nets that we hold weekly, we would like for all members to feel that they are wanted and expected to be there, no matter what the event in question is.

To do otherwise leads to an environment of distrust and that's not what I think our club is about. Back in the day, before I became president, I heard dark mutterings of how there were certain cliques in the club and how these groups somehow managed to control the club.

These are the kinds of rumors that I want to dispel. We have an open club and all members are always invited to come and enjoy!

On another note, elections are coming up soon. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a club officer see Joe K7ZG. Now, you cannot nominate someone without their knowledge and permission, but you certainly can let Joe know if you think that you know a person that might be interested, or maybe you might be interested yourself.

Joe can get you started on the path to becoming an RCT officer: It's not hard or onerous, and is interesting and even fun at times!

73 All, Gary WG7X
RCT President.

Looking back at some September Events



RCT again hosted a booth at the Western Washington Fair.

Shown to the left is Verna KF7SCB assisting young visitors with the Morse code oscillator. A certificate was awarded for successfully transmitting your name using code.

To the right, club members diligently stuffing envelopes for the Salmon Run Pledge mailing.

Below, Don K7OG and Rich KR7W using the TenTec in the Museum room. Don completed the sweep on Sunday in a 40 Meter Phone QSO with N7GCW in Ferry County.



Above, Pat WT7N takes a turn in the HF room. I think that is Papa Victor Zulu taking notes in the background.



Pizzas and Salads were on the menu for the intrepid souls at the RCT Clubhouse for Saturday night's Salmon Run event.

WashJam 2012



This year again, the venerable W7DK fielded an Amateur Radio information and technology booth at the 2012 Boy Scout Jamboree held August 16-17 at Joint Base Lewis McChord North Base.

At the third Washington State Jamboree, over 4,300 Cubs, Scouts, and Venturers experienced camping and lots of fun activities with Scouts from all over Washington, Oregon and British Columbia, and even as far away as Texas & Utah!



With the help of Steve Blacksten AD7VL, Greg Glidden KF7BAO and Karl Johnson K7KHG managed the booth, demonstrating HF and VHF/UHF operations and encouraging Scouts to "Get On The Air". Thanks to the crew for getting Amateur Radio promotion to the thousands of scouts who attended.



Scouting Merit Badge Counselors Needed:

We have several requests for Scout merit badge counselors. There are several scout merit badges related to electronics, amateur radio, Morse Code, and emergency operations.

If you can help, contact any of the club officers, or Steve Blacksten AD7VL – his info is in the club roster.

For more info on WashJam and great photos, visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/washjam2012>



Scouts and Scouters can earn the new Morse code interpreter strip by completing all three requirements: Carrying on a five minute conversation in Morse code at a speed of at least five words per minute, correctly copying a two minute message sent in Morse code at a minimum of five words per minute (copying means writing the message down as it is received) and sending a 25 word written document in Morse code at a minimum of five words per minute.

Upcoming Events - November Sweeps

Submitted by AI N7OMS

November is time for Sweepstakes which is the ARRL contest that was created as an on air birthday event for Hiram Percy Maxim. Hiram was very interested in using ham radio as a way to serve the public. He did that by passing public traffic messages. Contests grew up as a way to practice traffic handling. ARRL's Sweepstakes does that by having a very long exchange. It is not just 59 WWA but consecutive serial number, call sign, precedence (m for multi op), ARRL section, and Check which is the last two numbers of the year first licensed. That is where the fun begins for W7DK. Or check is 16 for 1916 and very few others can use that year or a lower one. We get lots of requests for repeats on the check. I have been told that I don't sound that old during past contests and doesn't that get "old".

At the last board meeting I asked Prez Gary WG7X if the club was going to put forth an effort for Sweeps this year. With the success of Salmon Run still fresh he is all in. We decided that the Phone contest would work as the club is still cultivating CW ops that can handle that long exchange at higher code speeds. So hey Code Ninja's take note CW Sweeps is November 3-5th. Good time to challenge yourselves and build the skills so we can compete in the 2013 CW Sweeps.

The Phone Sweeps contest will be held the weekend of November 17-19th and we will try to have the club house open as much as possible for that contest. All the details have not been worked out at this time so be sure to check in on the clubs net and visit the web site for updates.

A little unsure of your contest skills? Well I have found that to be one of the best benefits of club membership. Over the past few years I have gotten a lot of help from the more experienced contestants of the club and have grown in my contesting skills. I have much to learn yet but know I have the crew at the Club to back me up. I also have taken advantage of the Clubs Library and gotten good information from the Clubs magazine rack which has copies of ARRL QST, QEX and NCJ (National Contest Journal). I really like looking at the awesome pictures of contest stations in NCJ. They also have great advice in there Contesting 101 column. So come on down to the Club House grab a cup of coffee and sit back with the latest copy of NCJ and start your own journey to this year's Phone Sweeps. If I don't see you at the Club House then I hope to hear you on the air.

73 GL W7DK QRZ

November Sweepstakes Dates and Times

CW: First full weekend in November (November 3-5, 2012). **Phone:** Third full weekend in November (November 17-19, 2012). **Contest Period:** Begins 2100 UTC Saturday and runs through 0259 UTC Monday.

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters. No contest QSOs on 12, 17, 30 or 60 meters.

More info available at:
<http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>

Operator's Wallpaper

Even with the advent of electronically transmitted QSO information, many hams still exchange and collect the old-fashioned type of printed, hard-copy QSL Cards. If you have any special, or cool, or unique, or simply beautiful QSL cards in your collection that you'd like to share, please scan (high resolution is preferred) and email to the Bark Editor w7dk-news@earthlink.net. If you can't get them scanned, bring them

In this month's issue of The Logger's Bark we're featuring cards from the collection of RCT Member Harry Wong N7DOE. Thanks for sharing them.



COMING SOON TO A THEATER NEAR YOU

The fast-paced and exciting saga of two men in the Washington wilderness, making a clean sweep during 2012 Salmon Run, all while proving that when nothing else works, Ham Radio Does!



The weekend of September 15th and 16th, 2012 found our two intrepid adventurers Alan N7OMS and Joe K7ZG in the environs of Skamania County participating in the Washington State QSO Party, fondly called the "Salmon Run".

The station they operated on Saturday was at what appeared at first blush to be a remote, unused campground affording them views of Mount Saint Helens and, hopefully, good propagation and many radio contacts. Suddenly, what was thought to be an under-utilized site turned into the destination location for multiple automobile and motorcycle clubs from Seattle having their own weekend tour of the countryside.

With their radio set up and successfully making HF contacts, lo and behold, our two adventurers were informed that drivers of a BMW had flipped their automobile end over end. Although uninjured, there were no cell phone signals in the area. Emergency help could not be summoned.

When nothing else works, Ham Radio Does!

Through the efforts of Al and Joe reacquiring communications with one of the Salmon Run contacts, help was summoned. A relay to various agencies was established, tow trucks and the Sheriff's Department showed up, and all was well. Way to go, guys.



Joe K7ZG gassing up the generator at the campground on Saturday morning.

Sunday, our hearty lads decided to work the contest from surroundings a bit more comfortable and luxurious. Again, they had a good day and made a lot of contacts.



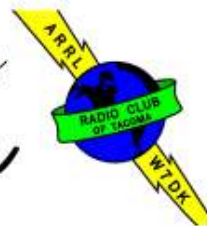
Overall, they had a remarkable weekend getting a clean sweep and rendering important aid to citizens in distress.

They arrived safely home and are likely already scheming what kind of an adventure they can undertake next year that will surpass this one.

In spite of the lack of photographic evidence, Al assures me that he, too, was there.



The Radio Club of Tacoma's
Logger's Bark



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Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5

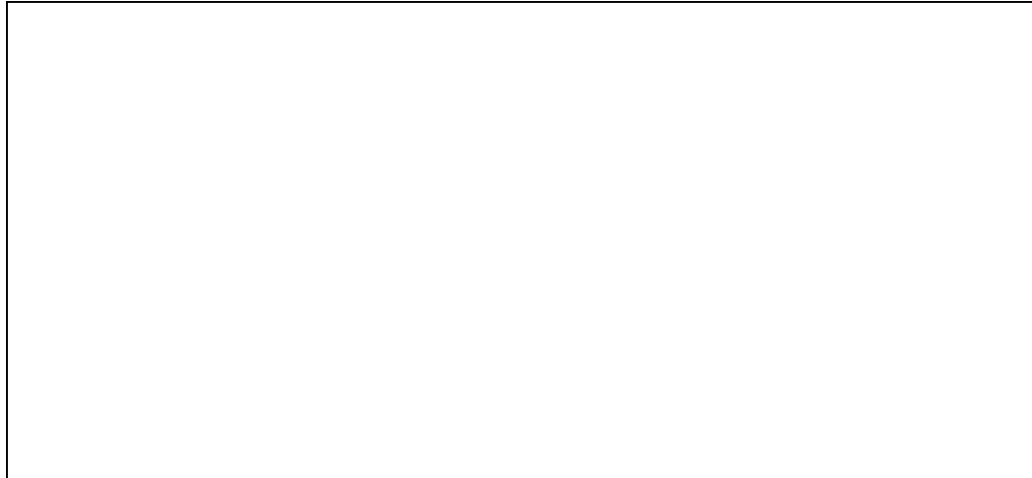
Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County): 147.280 + PL=103.5

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

Remember - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website w7dk.org. Be sure to enroll as a member to see all the info.

The Loggers Bark
Radio Club of Tacoma
PO Box 11188
Tacoma, WA 98411

To RCT Member:



September 2012 RCT Events

CLUB MEETINGS: Second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at the Library Administration Building 112th and Waller Road. The club meets at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting: First Wednesday of the month at the RCT clubhouse. All members are welcome to attend .

Bark Deadline: Last week-end of each month. Please submit articles by that time!

Support our club: Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer!

Check into the weekly two meter net: Tuesdays at 7:30 PM on the club repeater on 147.280 MHz

Check into the weekly 10 meter net: Sundays at 8:00 PM on 28.375 MHz .